

**Amendment to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A stent delivery system comprising:  
catheter;  
balloon operably attached to the catheter; [[and]]  
stent disposed on the balloon; and  
coating disposed on the stent, the coating applied to a preliminary stent  
comprising a permanent portion and a detachable portion while retaining the preliminary stent by  
the detachable portion, the stent formed from the permanent portion by removing the detachable  
portion with pooled coating.

Claim 2 (original): The stent delivery system of claim 1 wherein the coating  
includes a therapeutic agent.

Claim 3 (original): The stent delivery system of claim 1 wherein the coating is a  
polymer.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): A coated stent comprising:  
stent;  
a coating disposed on the stent, the coating applied to a preliminary stent  
comprising a permanent portion and a detachable portion while retaining the preliminary stent by  
the detachable portion, the stent formed from the coated permanent portion by removing the  
coated detachable portion with pooled coating.

Claim 5 (original): The coated stent of claim 4 wherein the coating includes a  
therapeutic agent.

Claim 6 (original): The coated stent of claim 4 wherein the coating is a polymer

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A method for producing a stent comprising:  
providing a preliminary stent comprising a permanent portion and a detachable  
portion;  
retaining the preliminary stent by the detachable portion;  
applying a coating to the preliminary stent; and  
detaching the detachable portion with pooled coating from the permanent portion.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The method of claim 7 further comprising  
finishing the end of the permanent portion which was detached from the ~~permanent~~ detachable  
portion.

Claim 9 (original): The method of claim 7 further comprising drying the coating.

Claim 10 (original): The method of claim 7 wherein detaching the detachable  
portion from the permanent portion further comprises detaching the detachable portion from the  
permanent portion by laser cutting.

Claim 11 (original): The method of claim 7 wherein detaching the detachable  
portion from the permanent portion further comprises detaching the detachable portion from the  
permanent portion by mechanical cutting.

Claim 12 (original): The method of claim 7 wherein applying a coating to the  
preliminary stent further comprises spraying a coating on the preliminary stent.

Claim 13 (original): The method of claim 7 wherein applying a coating to the  
preliminary stent further comprises dipping the preliminary stent to form a coating.

Claim 14 (original): The method of claim 7 wherein the detachable portion  
further comprises a first detachable portion and a second detachable portion; and

retaining the preliminary stent by the detachable portion further comprises retaining the preliminary stent by the first detachable portion and the second detachable portion.

Claim 15 (original): The method of claim 7 wherein the coating includes a therapeutic agent.

Claim 16 (original): The method of claim 7 wherein the coating is a polymer.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): A system for producing a stent comprising: means for providing a preliminary stent comprising a permanent portion and a detachable portion;

means for retaining the preliminary stent by the detachable portion;

means for applying a coating to the preliminary stent; and

means for detaching the detachable portion with pooled coating from the permanent portion.

Claim 18 (original): The system of claim 17 further comprising means for finishing the end of the permanent portion which was detached from the permanent portion.

Claim 19 (original): The system of claim 17 further comprising means for drying the coating.

Claim 20 (original): The system of claim 17 wherein the detachable portion further comprises a first detachable portion and a second detachable portion; and

means for retaining the preliminary stent by the detachable portion further comprises means for retaining the preliminary stent by the first detachable portion and the second detachable portion.